

Gilbert F. Schmitt as primary promoter. He had a very interesting program. A member of the Illinois State Legislature, Richard Stengel, spoke on legislature in the behalf of getting a bill through. The twenty-two members present introduced themselves and gave a brief talk on the most outstanding incident during his or her career.

1953

Illinois held their first meeting of 1953 on January 8th at the offices of Dr. Pearl Lewis in Arthur, Illinois.

Holdrege, Nebraska was the city in which the Nebraska Chapter met early in 1953. The Deppe's hosted the meeting. Primary business dealt with was connected with legislative problems. Mrs. Weiler reported that they had visited twenty of the forty-three Senators in the State. (Which brought the results of the bill passing twenty-six to ten as reported in the June issue of "The Masseur".) Funds to carry on the work of legislature was discussed and donations were accepted to establish a Legislative Fund, which Mrs. Johns was appointed to be in charge of.

The Kansas Chapter had started a class session on treatment techniques in April 1953 which continued for several months. These classes made it possible for members who had had special schooling and study in different types of treatments to share this information with fellow members. They also made up a "State Directory" of practicing members for patient referral. Officers of the Kansas Chapter this year were; President Edward Burns, Vice-president Francis A. Stinson and Secretary-treasurer Gerva Connor.

March 22, 1953 brought the sad news of Clark Cottrell, Past President, passing from our midst due to a sudden heart attack. To those of us who knew him well it was hard to believe. He will be remembered for his wit and humor, his jokes and fun. He also will be remembered for his serious side. Dr. Charles Brooks wrote this tribute to him, "The faults of our brothers, we write upon the sands. The virtues upon the tablets of love and memory."

The Pennsylvania Chapter meeting was held on April 19th at the Elks Club, Pottsville, Pennsylvania. This baby chapter pledged itself to a \$15.00 ad in the National Convention Souvenir program. The revised constitution and by-laws came up for discussion and the chapter moved for its adoption at Spokane National Convention which was to be held in August of that year. Officers elected that year were; President Stewart E. Miller, Vice-president Wilson L. Lutte, Secretary-treasurer Blandford Jones and the Board of Directors were Kenneth May, Thomas R. Fink and Joseph A. Massei.

This interesting little story about the meeting at Astoria, Oregon on May 3rd at Ruth Olsons Health Center was told in "The Masseur". "Members had a big time clamming in the morning before the meeting. The story of the oyster and clams was read by Mr. Trossen, the clams were returned to the water. After the meeting members had dinner at the Hungry Harbor, but needless to say, no clams or oysters were ordered." Oregon officers were; President John Hanna, Vice-president Eloise P. Solvink and Secretary-treasurer Alfred C. Trossen.

On June 14, 1953 the Illinois Chapter had their election of officers. Those elected were; President Gilbert Schmitt, Vice-president Martin Wienrich and Secretary-treasurer Arthur D. Melson. The question of whether or not to continue the printing of the "Illinois Masseur" was quite a primary discussion. It was decided to carry on for another year.

1953 found Arkansas still having trouble with government bath-house massage operators. Although all who were engaged as masseurs and masseuses within the state were bound under the terms of the Registration Act there were some who claimed otherwise. All of this had to be overcome but the question was, how? Arkansas officers for 1953 were; President Mae Stover, Vice-president Lillian Mickell and Secretary-treasurer Earl B. Swan.

Meanwhile in the Washington Chapter plans were going ahead for the National Convention to be held in Spokane. Milton A. Niedfelt, program chairman, was sending out letters by the hundreds to seek advertising for the Year Book. In July he wrote to State President Taylor and informed her that it was completed and that all bills were paid, leaving a profit of \$135.00.

It was at this point in our history that another very valuable member came into our fellowship. George D. Gammon of California was sponsored and accepted for membership by Milton A. Niedfelt on July 3, 1953. August 6th saw members gathered together for the State Chapter Meeting before the National Convention. The gathering was a most harmonious one. Legislative problems were still besetting the members and an extensive report was given by Arthur Dunbar. A bill had been presented but had failed to pass. Elected officers were; President Arthur D. Mann, Vice-president Bertha Reager, Secretary-treasurer F. E. Bloom and Directors Leston T. Short, Florence M. Taylor, Milton A. Niedfelt, Arthur B. Dunbar and Ruth E. Williams. At this meeting Arthur Dunbar was re-appointed Editor with M. A. Niedfelt continuing to assist. Vancouver was selected as site of Washington Chapter State Meeting for 1954.

The Eighth National Convention opened the following day, August 7, 1953 in the Davenport Hotel, Spokane, Washington, with sixty-five voting members present.

A memorial Service was held for deceased Past President Clark Cottrell. Following a moment of silence the hymn "It Is Well With My Soul" was rendered. The invocation was given by Ruth Williams. The business meeting started and Charles T. Williams' Secretary-treasurers report on the 1952 Convention at Chicago was read and commented upon. Statements made and figures given showed a wide discrepancy in truth and fact. At this time written clarification of facts concerning Mr. Williams' reports was attached to the original copy of his report for future reference. A motion was made and seconded to expell Mr. Williams from the Association for conduct unbecoming a member and an officer. The vote was unanimous.

In a written report Secretary-treasurer Carlson stated that we had a membership of two hundred and two. The Constitution and By-laws were read and voted upon step by step until there was almost a complete revision of them. The following officers were installed at this time: President Earl Alexander, 1st Vice-president Mrs. O. P. Coates, Secretary-treasurer D. S. Carlson and Directors Vera Setty, Harold Collins, Martha Savills and Alfred Trossen.

Davenport, Iowa was chosen as 1954 Convention City. The final day of Convention wound up by a chartered bus load going to Grand Coulee Dam sightseeing for the day.

Spokane Local Chapter held a meeting after the close of National Convention. Not many were there so the only thing that was accomplished was election of officers. President was Leston Short, Vice-president George Rogers, Secretary-treasurer Estelle Aldrich and Program Chairman was Dick Butts.

Seattle Chapter met November 1, 1953 at the office of Paul George. Della Sumner was present to consult with State Officers about the next Year's State Convention June 5th and 6th. Officers elected were; President Paul George, Vice-president M. A. Niedfelt and Secretary-treasurer Regina Williams.

1954

Dr. Charles Brooks was doing a great job with "The Masseur". He saved the organization a lot of money, for he worked without compensation. To expect any member to use his own printing press, do all the printing and prepare all the material for a magazine free gratis was really too much to ask of anyone.

The National program was pushing ahead and recommendations were on the fire for several changes. One was to discontinue the use of the certificates that were in use at that time. Too many members were joining and paying their first year's dues in order to get a certificate and thereby misled the public into thinking they were still members of the A.A.M.M. The new certificate recommended would be valid for one year and would be renewed from year to year by issuing a renewal card when the dues were paid. This card to be placed in the corner of the certificate in the space provided, attesting to the fact that the member was of good standing.

Another recommendation was that in order to expedite and improve the working of the A.A.M.M. certain committees be appointed by the National President. Recommended committees were as follows; Constitution and By-laws, Legislation, Nominating, Ethics, Registration, Schools and Colleges, Public Relations, Editorial, Advertising, Placement, Membership and Welfare. Some members thought that apprentice trained operators should be taken into membership as associate members with all privileges of other members except that they couldn't vote or hold office.

At the approach of the end of the fiscal year, the Association was getting to be big business. The National Secretary-treasurer mailed out over 2,000 pieces of mail, much of which was personally typed letters, etc. This did not include the mailing out of the regular issues of "The Masseur" or of the form letters and booklets which were sent to State Chapter Secretary-treasurers.

All members were pressing forward for legislature in their states. The Registration Act was being revised and made to fit the various states in which it was being presented. Arkansas had pointed the way to an improved "act" for they had found new flaws in the bill passed in their state for several months after its passing. Florida had a good massage law and members were urged to get copies of it and study it with their own states in mind.

The Washington Massage News was plowing ahead and monthly issues were being mailed out. Members were being urged to send in their \$3.00 voluntary monthly contribution to the Legislative Fund. Mr. Bloom, Washington State Secretary-treasurer was bonded and the fund was in good hands. The Washington Chapter Board of Directors meeting was held in the Columbia Hotel in Wenatchee, Washington, on April 11, 1954. Every State Officer was present. The purpose of the meeting was to make final arrangements of the State Convention to be held June 5th and 6th. Bloom reported to the board that Washington had lost eight members and gained twelve during the year.

During our 1953 National Convention at Spokane, we met a very personable young man from North Dakota, Samuel G. Dahlgren. This man played a very important part in the future years of our Organization. Mr. Dahlgren, who was a now mem-

ber, went home to North Dakota inspired to organize his state and early in 1954 the North Dakota Chapter was formed.

Washington State Chapter met in Vancouver, Washington, June 5th and 6th, 1954 with Della Sumner as Convention Hostess. It was at this meeting that Washington members were confronted with the problem of what to do about chiropractors becoming members. The Department of Licenses had made the examination for Chiropractors so stiff they could not pass it. Therefore we were being plagued by applicants from Chiropractors who wanted to join with us. We were warned by the Department of Licenses that if any of our members were caught practicing chiropractics under the guise of massage it would go tough on us. To protect our members we made a ruling that Chiropractors who held a massage diploma could become a member if they would surrender their Chiropractor diploma and promise not to practice chiropractic adjustments while a member of the A.A.M.M. Officers elected were; President Arthur Mann, Vice-president Leston Short, Secretary-treasurer F. E. Bloom and Directors Florence Taylor, Phil Janssen, Bertha Roa-ger, Blossom Hendrix and Ruth Williams. Washington Chapter members also voted to donate one hundred hours of treatments to children afflicted with polio if massage was prescribed by their physician. This action brought us to the attention of Medical Doctors all over the state. Chapter members were on the ball and several meetings were held in Washington during this year. Washington Chapter members now numbered sixty-two.

It was at a Seattle meeting that National Officers conferred upon Mrs. Carol Niedfelt Honorary Membership expressing their gratitude for her inspiration and guidance to members and officers.

The Ninth National Convention which was held at the Black Hawk Hotel, Davenport, Iowa, August 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th, 1954 had fifty-two voting members and several guests in attendance. President Alexander was unable to be there due to illness in the family. Vice-president Florence Taylor presided at the meeting. One of the first items of new business was the suggested name change presented by the Nebraska Chapter which was tabled.

There were a number of resolutions passed. The proposal for the appointment of committees by the President, mentioned earlier in this report, was adopted. Also the one about issuing new certificates was passed. The convention voted to accept "associate members" stipulating that after two years membership if they were still working at massage work they would be taken in as regular members. Another proposal that carried a lot of weight was that no elected officer could hold the same office more than three years consecutively.

Mal-practice insurance had been offered members at a reduced rate and several members were already using it. A resolution was approved to print a roster or year book after October 1, 1954 to provide a more accurate list of active members and officers. Dr. Charles Brooks was allowed \$50.00 per issue above expenses for printing The Massour to compensate him a little for the many hours of labor he put into the publication of this little paper. A motion was carried that the A.A.M.M. refuse to endorse and supplement or lend its name to any commercial product to the exclusion of other products.

For the list of Officers and Committee Members elected in 1954 see the Appendix. Installing officer was Milton A. Niedfelt.

The convention was sponsored entirely by ladies and it was interesting to note the charm and ease with which every detail was handled. The social atmosphere

had all the warmth of an annual homecoming. The boat trip was a great treat and a new experience to many of the members. The banquet was beautifully planned and the tables were decorated with Iowa's golden crop of corn and was the work of Mildred Hanson. Art Briese, the humorist entertainer kept the guests in high spirits until a late hour. At the farewell breakfast a red rose was placed by each plate as a symbol of love and remembrance. Thus ended a most memorable convention with members saying adieu until Kentucky 1955.

Seattle Chapter held another meeting in Snohomish, Washington at the home of Low Hatch on September 12, 1954. Members from outside Seattle all up and down the coast were coming into the local meetings and progress was being made in their group. John Murray was delegated to contact the telephone company in regard to placing all members advertisement under our A.A.M.M. insignia.

After a summer of rest Spokane Chapter again took up their meetings. The first was held September 25, 1954 at the home of Richard Butts, with Local President Loston Short presiding. National President Ruth Williams and husband Jess were present along with nine other members and guests. The main order of the meeting was the discussion of a membership drive and the insurance program.

The Seattle Chapter held its November 7, 1954 meeting at the home of John Murray in Port Townsend, Washington. Members had to travel there by ferry boat. This was thrilling to many of the members. The time was spent in discussion of the joint phone advertisement and of the advisability of accepting applicants into the A.A.M.M. who were borderline chiropractors. A pot luck luncheon was served by the ladies.

There were thirteen present at the Iowa Chapter meeting on October 17, 1954 in Charles City Iowa at the home of Ella Blodgett. There was a discussion of the Registration Act and it was decided to wait a little longer before presenting it. An election of officers was held and the results were; President Ella Blodgett, Vice-president Myrtle Hudson, Secretary-treasurer Merle Glanz and Directors Floy Brownlie, Van Thompson, Nina McGreery and Norma Zostrow. Evelyn Shubert was moving to Nebraska and Iowa members hated to lose her for she had been Secretary-treasurer of their state since they organized in 1950.

Mary Howells was host to a group of Illinois Chapter members at the Elks Club in Canton, Illinois on September 19, 1954. She gave them a demonstration on her pet techniques for treating bursitis. President Gilbert Schmitt gave them the low down on the mal-practice insurance plan. The next meeting in Illinois was held on November 7th after a pilgrimage to the southern part of the state to stimulate interest there. It was held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Charles Brooks in Decatur, Illinois, with President Gilbert Schmitt presiding. Letters were read reporting, . . . Pearl Lewis vacationing in Florida . . . Announcing the new offices of H. R. Knio in Chicago . . . Mary Howells on the sick list . . . Mildred Schrodt was getting married . . . Mae Arrasmith asking why she did not get The Massour. The Chapter was honored to have Floy Brownlie, 1st Vice-president of the National at the meeting. After the meeting Dr. Brooks showed the members his new place of business which he expected to move into within a month or two.

The Oregon Chapter, which had been decimated by the resignation of a few members, re-organized in the fall of 1954 with eight members and a new State Charter which had been issued. They expressed a desire to add a page to the "Washington Massage News". Washington officials were agreeable to this arrangement and "Just South of the Border" by C. A. Tyler began. A charter signing meeting was held November 14, 1954 in Portland at the Hollywood Charm Studio. Officers elected

were; President Ruth Olson, Vice-president David Schied and Secretary-treasurer C. A. Tyler.

Samuel Dahlgren organized the North Dakota Chapter and the first meeting was held on January 30, 1954, with officers Theodore Norby, President, Milfred T. Bakke, Vice-president and Samuel Dahlgren as Secretary-treasurer. This up and coming Chapter launched immediately into a program to get a Massage Bill introduced in their State Legislature.

The Georgia Chapter had a state meeting November 6th attended by five members. They were Glenn Carlson, Nannie Gurley, Arnold Ingemann, Mrs. George Brown and D. S. Carlson. They rated a big four-column picture in the Columbus, Georgia paper where the meeting was held. A program for obtaining Massage Legislation was mapped out in preparation for the January Session. They had obtained the promise of support from Governor-elect Marvin Griffon.

Bessie Erfurth, Secretary-treasurer of Indiana reported in The Masseur that a meeting had been held at the office of Vera Setty on September 11, 1954 with nine members and five visitors present. Gilbert Schmitt of Illinois gave them a talk and demonstration. Officers elected at this meeting were; President Edward D. Paskus, Vice-president Helen Lewandowski and Secretary-treasurer Bessie Erfurth.

Mary Babbitt, corresponding secretary of Idaho State Massage Association wrote to Milton Niedfelt in December 1954 — "Well I think it is safe to say organization in Idaho is off to a fair start. There were eleven at our meeting yesterday afternoon and we voted to become a Chapter of the A.A.M.M."

1955

January 15, 1955, Milton Niedfelt, Jess Williams and National President Ruth Williams journeyed to Boise, Idaho, where the Idaho Chapter Charter was presented to fourteen members. Mrs. Williams spoke on the purpose of the organization during the dinner meeting and Mr. Niedfelt spoke on the conduct and responsibilities of the practitioners. Officers for the new Chapter were President Paul Boeck, Lillian Waits, Vice-president, Minnie Keim, Treasurer and Mary Babbitt, Recording Secretary. It was decided at this meeting to start an Idaho State Massage News. Their first issue was published February 10, 1955, with Mary Babbitt as Editor and Frank Lasher as Assistant Editor.

Idaho President Paul Boeck suggested a Tri-State meeting between Oregon, Washington and Idaho. It was held in Lewiston, Idaho on March 19th and 20th, 1955, with a goodly number of members from all three states in attendance. Among the many items of business taken care of was the suggestion of a "stamp plan" which President Ruth Williams and her Board of Directors were working on. These stamps to be used on our stationary as a form of advertising and fund raising, were of our A.A.M.M. emblem. Members at the Tri-State meeting gave the National President the financial backing to have the stamps printed and gave the promise of support in the trial plan. Accordingly, the stamps were printed and sent out and the Organization prospered by several hundreds of dollars before the plan was abandoned in 1956.

After the banquet at the Idaho meeting the film "Massage for the Relief of the Heart" by Jess Williams was shown. This film showed Jess giving a full demonstration of his treatment for heart disturbances, and was the first film on Massage made by any member of the A.A.M.M. Idaho was deeply involved in the attempt to get a massage bill enacted and members spent many hours in Boise

working on it. Meetings were also held on July 24th at Boise and August 31st at Twin Falls. Officers for the new fiscal year were elected as follows: President Dale Mearns, Vice-president Paul Boeck and Secretary-treasurer Elva Sutton.

Illinois Chapter was hostess to Indiana and Iowa at a meeting in Rock Island, April 30th and May 1st, 1955, where five new members were signed up. On September 11, in Peoria, election of officers was held and the following were installed; President Mary Howells, Vice-president Glenn Jewell and Secretary-treasurer Richard Frysinger. The last meeting of the year was held on November 13, in Canton, Illinois, with twenty-two members present and the day was spent in lectures and demonstration which all agreed were very interesting.

The Tenth Annual National Convention of the A.A.M.M. was held in the Kentucky Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky on August 11th through the 14th, 1955 with President Williams presiding. The business sessions were long and interesting which proved that members were thinking out their problems and progress was made to promote the growth of the Association. Two new committees were approved in the interests of the A.A.M.M. They were the Insurance Committee and the Legal Committee. For the first time in the history of the A.A.M.M. the travel expenses of the National President were paid to the convention. A motion was approved that both the National President and the National Secretary-treasurer have their trip expenses paid on the basis of railroad chair-car rates to and from conventions beginning August 1956. The members approved the sleeve emblems submitted by Mr. Carlson and authorized the ordering of same. Also the "Stamp Plan" was approved.

Arthur Mann, President of the Washington Chapter had the honor of being chosen Masseur of the Year in the contest that National Officers had decided to run. For election results see the Appendix.

Gilbert Schmitt gave a fine talk and demonstration on wireless energy, Arthur Mann demonstrated his method of Myopathy and John Persona showed some physical fitness exercises on his slant board.

The group, in two large Greyhound buses, toured the beautiful rolling, hilly countryside of Kentucky. Most memorable of the trip was the stop at Steven Foster's famous home, where he received all of his inspirations to write the beautiful songs of the Negro and of the Sunny South, and it seemed that we could still feel his presence there in that beautiful mansion. With the close of this convention members felt that we were headed for greener pastures with a fine team of officers at our head. Members said goodbye until Convention 1956 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The Oregon Chapter held their first meeting of the year on January 16, 1955 at the Dundee Health Center, Dundee, Oregon, with all members present. Dr. Jennie Cotner of the Oregon School of Massage and Goldie Wolf, Ashland were guests at this meeting. It was a general informative meeting in which legislative problems and various methods of treatment were discussed pro and con. The home of Ruth Olson, Astoria, Oregon was the site of the May 15 meeting. Four new members were added to the rolls. Election of officers resulted in the following officers being installed; President David Schied, Vice-president Elinore Crosby and Secretary-treasurer C. A. Tyler.

July 24, 1955 the Oregon Chapter held their bi-monthly meeting at the home of Dr. Jennie Cotner in Portland. Dr. Cotner was offered Honorary Membership in the A.A.M.M. and she graciously accepted. There was a number of visitors from

the Oregon School of Massage. President Schied took upon himself the task of meeting with Garland Wolff to arrange a get together meeting of the A.A.M.M. and the Oregon Medical Masseurs for the purpose of seeking legislative relief from the 1955 act of legislature, Senate Bill 443, by dispensing with the Board of Massage Examiners. At the meeting of September 11th in Hubbard Mineral Springs, Hubbard, Oregon, the Secretary-treasurer was instructed to write to the Attorney General for a ruling on the validity of legislative authority of Senate Bill 443 in view of the fact that there was considerable animosity between members of the Massage Board and certain legislators. It was suggested that "Smelling Salts" be available in the event of a one hundred percent attendance at the next meeting. Needless to say, the "salts" were not needed at the November 6th meeting held in Portland, however, five guests were present which helped the moral of those attending.

During this year letters were sent out to all graduate members of the Oregon School of Massage asking them to join with the A.A.M.M. Several favorable responses were received. Members of the Oregon Chapter believe that the meetings held every other month help to keep the organization together, promoting a friendly atmosphere in discussing business conditions and helpful massage therapy. Oregon Chapter closed the year with fourteen members and one Honorary Member. All year they had sent news articles to the Washington A.A.M.M. News for publication, which made very interesting reading.

South Dakota organized the seventeenth State Chapter on January 15, 1955 in Sioux Falls with Lorraine Reiser as President, Margaret Decker, Vice-president and Gladys Story, Secretary-treasurer. (Due to the small number of members in this Chapter it functioned only a little over a year, but was re-organized at a later date.) Another State to form a Chapter in 1955 was Ohio. Officers were; President Thelma Conley, Vice-president Raymond T. Davis and Secretary-treasurer William H. Kinsinger.

A lot of activity was brewing in the Washington Chapter of the A.A.M.M. and regular meetings were being held in Seattle and Spokane. Spokane members welcomed Pete I. Eitriem into membership at a February meeting and card party. In the meeting of September 13th at the home of Netta Meado, F. E. Bloom was honored on his birthday for the fine services he had rendered to the State Chapter as Secretary-treasurer all without compensation.

Washington State Chapter Annual Convention was held in Yakima on June 4th and 5th, 1955 where the following officers were elected; President Arthur Mann, Vice-president Leston T. Short, Secretary-treasurer F. E. Bloom and Directors Russel Sopor, Ruth Williams, Jessie Smith, Bortha Reager and Blossom Guntley. The new editor of the Washington Massage News was J. L. Hatch with Regina Williams as Assistant Editor. Milton Niedfelt and his National Membership and Organizational Committee were doing a lot of letter writing and it was bringing results because the membership almost doubled its number in the 1955-56 fiscal year. Arthur Mann and his National Legislative Committee also laid some very fine ground work for several State Chapters in their push for Massage Bills.

Mildred Warnes deserves credit for the organizing of the Wisconsin State Chapter. The first officers elected were; President Mildred Warnes, Vice-president Roy LeRoy and Secretary-treasurer Mino S. Randall. On May 1, 1955 at the Spa LaBelle on the beautiful shores of Lake LaBelle, Oconomowoc, the Wisconsin Chapter was granted their State Charter from the National A.A.M.M. I have been unable to find a record of the activity which took place in the Chapter during the balance of the year but, we know they were very busy in their preparations

as Hostess State in the coming year of 1956. Several members attended the 1955 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, and delegates there had the special treat of meeting the Brothers John P. Persona and Frank Persitza, whom you will read more about later, for they were to add much to our organization.

State officers elected in 1955 for which we do not have a record of meetings held were:

Georgia Chapter; President Arnold Ingemann, Vice-president Nannie Gurley, Secretary-treasurer Glenn D. Carlson.
Indiana Chapter; President Helen Lewandowski, Vice-president Lowell Spangle and Secretary-treasurer Vera Setty.
Iowa Chapter; President Ella Blodgett, Vice-president Myrtle Hudson and Secretary-treasurer Merle Glans.
Kansas Chapter; President, Francis A. Stinson, Vice-president Rebecca Burns and Secretary-treasurer Ruth Groth.
Kentucky Chapter; C. E. Seibert, President, William P. Stodgill, Vice-president and Dolbert Vincent, Secretary-treasurer.
Nebraska Chapter; President Gladys Weiler, Vice-president John Sickler, 2nd Vice president Myron J. Gilbert and Secretary-treasurer Agnes Switzer.
North Dakota Chapter; President Leonard Neels, Vice-president Milford T. Bakke and Secretary-treasurer Samuel Dahlgren.
Pennsylvania Chapter; President Stewart Miller, Vice-president Wilson L. Lutte and Secretary-treasurer Blandford Jones.
Tennessee Chapter; President Beatrice Smith, Vice-president Selma Smith and Secretary-treasurer T. B. Simon.
Utah Chapter; President Robert D. Jones, Vice-president G. E. Kingsford and Secretary-treasurer Alice Ward.
Virginia Chapter; President Sarah Jane Beverly, Vice-president Ann Wood and Secretary-treasurer Martha Savills.

The honor of being commissioned a Kentucky Colonel was conferred upon Ruth Williams on instructions from Gov. Lawrence W. Wetherby of Kentucky because of her work in the Association and probably because she happened to be President of the A.A.M.M. at the time the convention was held in his state. She was also appointed, by National President D. S. Carlson, to the Committee of Schools and Colleges as its Chairman. For the first time we set up rules and regulations which the Schools of Massage must abide by if their students were to become members of our association.

The Schools and Colleges Committee went into the depths of studying the schools as individuals to find out what should make up the curricula of these schools. The report was gone through piece by piece and adopted by the National Convention. Now we could say to the world you must have this kind of education or you cannot be a masseur or massouse. Hap-hazard education no longer can be accepted. Requirements for accredited Massage Schools were set up as follows; Pre-entrance examination, High school diploma or equivalent, Massage school must issue a diploma or equivalent. Subjects required; Anatomy, Physiology, Ethics, Hygiene, and the Theory and Practice of Massage and Related Techniques and final examination on all subjects. The school shall be accepted by the local chapter of the A.A.M.M. if there be one, and or recommended by the local Chamber of Commerce. These schools were set up into three classes; Class A - Six months (600 hours or over) residence course, Class B - Three months (300 hours or over) residence course, Class C - Correspondence course and three months clinical training or apprenticeship (100 hours) and Class R - One engaged in research of Massage and related techniques.

After an exhaustive search, sixteen schools were located in the U.S.A. who were qualified to fit into the above requirements. These requirements were not stiff enough, the committee realized, but it would do for a start and standards would have to be upgraded as time went on and we could bring to the schools attention the importance of improving their courses.

Yes, our little Organization was growing stronger with each passing year and our members were becoming more closely bound together in our common cause to let the world know our ethics, principals and ambitions. The committees which had been appointed for the first time in Davenport 1954 Convention were now departments that had become important to the power and expansion of the A.A.M.M.

It was during these months that The Masseur began to take on a different scope. It began to have less State Chapter activity news in it and to publish more articles of a scientific nature relative to our profession. Members from all over the country were sharing their thoughts and experiences through the little paper and many people benefited from the information contained therein.

President D. S. Carlson put out a call to all practitioners of massage to seek membership in the A.A.M.M. and to work diligently for massage legislation in their states. The need for being organized was forcibly brought to the attention of officers by the arrest of Mr. Fox of Pennsylvania for practicing chiropractics without a license and of Blandie Jones for practicing physical therapy without a license. Both of these A.A.M.M. members were cleared of the charges brought against them. Fortunately for the massage operators in Pennsylvania this attempted freeze-out did not work due to the support of a National Organization, namely the A.A.M.M. Did we need to be further reminded of the necessity of being well represented?

A code of professional ethics was given to us by the Ethics Committee Chairman Ann B. White as follows; The science which deals with the moral conduct and human duty. Service to our clientele, their welfare and comfort. Be faithful in doing our tasks and be loyal to the profession. Our aim is to conserve life and promote health.

1956

One of the biggest events of the history of the Organization to date was the addition of three new Chapters to the A.A.M.M. California, Michigan and Massachusetts. Michigan prepared to go ahead with a membership drive that was to give her a great deal of credit as a new chapter. Michigan received her Charter in the National Convention held in Milwaukee in August, 1956. They held regular state meetings and first officers elected were; President Carl F. Hough, Vice-president Thaddeus W. McFall and Secretary-treasurer Arnold J. Johnson.

California came into the fold with about the largest enrollment of members that had been received into the A.A.M.M. George D. Gammon had been working to get the State of California organized and in mid-summer of 1956 their first meeting was held in Los Angeles. They already had a physical therapy organization, but George Gammon was convinced that the National A.M.T.A. was a better deal than a lone state organization. California was in bad need of a law to protect the ethical massour and masseuse. State officers elected were; President George D. Gammon, 1st Vice-president Eran J. Stone, 2nd Vice-president Harry F. Skaller, 3rd Vice-president Elmer R. Conn and Secretary-treasurer Lloyd Allen. The second meeting was held on September 15, in Modesto and the State Charter was presented for their signing at this time. Mr. Gammon had just returned from the National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and told the new chapter of the

high lights of the convention and he told of the forming of this Association as a cry for unity and recognition of our profession. June was selected as the month for their state conventions with quarterly meetings in January and September.

After many attempts Massachusetts finally crossed the threshold due to the efforts of Ann White, a long time member of the A.A.M.M. Massachusetts State Chapter was organized in June 1956, with eight members present. Several attempts were made to have the necessary five members present in order to open a chapter, but most times there were not more than two or three that would show up. Meetings were held monthly at the members places of business and although the membership was small, attendance was almost one hundred percent. Holding work shops the desire to help each other, and having good speakers made their meetings a real success. Officers elected were; President Ann B. White, Vice-president Henry A. LaFleur and Secretary-treasurer Fedora A. Goffinet. Mr. LaFleur was named Masseur of the Year for Massachusetts.

Georgia Chapter re-elected the same officers in 1956 and held state meetings four times yearly.

Idaho held meetings every other month and on June 27, at Nampa, Idaho the following officers were elected; President Marion Sutton, Vice-president Frank Lasher and Secretary-treasurer Elve Sutton. Paul Boeck was sent to National Convention as Idaho's Masseur of the Year. Mary Babbitt resigned as editor of the Idaho paper and Minnie Klem was appointed as new editor. August 22 the meeting was held in the home of Frank Lasher, Fruitland, Idaho, and the new officers were installed.

Illinois State Chapter held their yearly election June 3, 1956, in Galesburg, with the following officers installed; President Mary Howells, Vice-president Glenn Jewell and Secretary-treasurer Hazel Davis. A motion was approved to assess a \$5.00 fee on Illinois members to be placed in the State Legislative fund, also a \$1.00 fine to be assessed on members not attending future meetings. Mitzie LeMoyné was selected as delegate to bring a report of the National Convention back to the group. Mary Howells was selected as Illinois Masseuse of the Year. The next meeting was held September 9, in Canton, Illinois. Illinois was also hostess to a four state meeting held in Chicago on March 18. The states of Wisconsin, Indiana and Iowa were guests. The meeting was well attended by all four states and plans were laid before them for the coming National Convention.

The Indiana Chapter held meetings every other month and the emphasis for 1956 was on increasing their membership. Their July 15 meeting was in Gary, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Poskus. This was their annual picnic. This was a joint affair in that a bridal shower was given for member Lois Button who was to marry Herbert E. Weiler on July 28. Officers were also installed. They were; President Helen Lewandowski, Vice-president Bessie E. Erfurth and Secretary-treasurer Lowell Spangle. Other meetings were held in September and November.

Kansas Chapter re-elected all officers in 1956.

Kentucky Chapter was holding meetings monthly and as there did not seem to be much pressing their state since their successful National Convention the year before, they spent most of their time in demonstrations and just good old social get togethers.

Iowa State Chapter held their meetings four times yearly. Election of officers took place in the April 15 meeting, with Mildred Hanson as hostess. Those elected were; President Myrtle Mae Hanson, Vice-president Edward P. O'Donnell and Secretary-treasurer Percy Brownlie. Turn out was small at these gatherings but the Chapter was on sound financial ground and the faithful few continued to carry on.

Nebraska State Chapter was holding meetings on call, only, with the following officers serving; President Gladys G. Weiler, Vice-president John Sickler and Secretary-treasurer Gertrude Wentz.

North Dakota Chapter was working on their proposed state law and hopes were high to soon get it passed. Officers of the year were; President Leonard Neels, Vice-president Milfred T. Bakke and Secretary-treasurer Samuel G. Dahlgren. Theodore Norby had moved to California and North Dakota Chapter missed him, but he was busy out there helping California get her Chapter started.

In spite of inclement weather, a nice turn out was had for the March 4, Oregon Chapter meeting held at Dr. Cotner's place, thanks to their hostess, who had done much work in bringing out prospective members. The meeting, conducted by Vice-president Crosby, had discussion of the Tri-State Convention to be held in Portland. A talk on the massage laws, rules and regulations as passed by the last legislature was given by Mr. Blair of the State Board of Health and was well received as both interesting and helpful. The Chapter decided to pay transportation costs of the Secretary-treasurer to National Convention at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, plus \$15.00 registration fee. Insured patients were discussed both pro and con, with the hope voiced that old line insurance companies would soon see the necessity of making allowances for massage treatments, just as they would for any call to an M.D. Election of officers was held on September 9 with the following officers elected; President C. A. Tyler, Vice-president Elinore Crosby and Secretary-treasurer Mildred Churchill.

Pennsylvania Chapter was selected as hostess state for 1957 National Convention and members were hard at work perfecting plans for it. Newly elected officers were; President Wilson L. Lutte, Vice-president Thomas R. Fink, Secretary Leslie Hoch and Treasurer Arnold P. Kranch.

South Dakota officers were re-elected and a few meetings were held.

Utah State officers were; President Robert D. Jones, Vice-president Stewart Horsley and Secretary-treasurer Bert F. Kidman.

Washington State Chapter was very active in 1956 with the Seattle Chapter holding meetings under the leadership of President Pryor Canady. Spokane Chapter held five meetings during the year with C. R. Soper as their local President. The Spokane group was hostess to the Annual State Convention June 8th, 9th, and 10th, 1956, which was also a Tri-State Meeting with Oregon and Idaho members attending. State officers elected were; President John A. Murray, Vice-president Pearl Lewis Hoppe, Secretary-treasurer Pete Eitriem and Ruth Williams as Editor of The Massage News. President John Murray was selected as Masseur of the Year for Washington.

Wisconsin State Chapter, under the able direction of Frank Persitza, President, O. Raymond Simpson, Vice-president and Roy LeRoy, Secretary-treasurer, was preparing for the National Convention.